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Integrated NATO Planning Termed 'Major Forward Step'

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara has hailed as a major step forward the NATO decision to integrate planning of military forces and defense budgets.

On his return from the Paris Defense Ministers conference, Mr. McNamara termed the recent NATO meeting as the culmination of three years of work that began at Ottawa NATO conference in May 1963.

"At that time it was agreed NATO would undertake a series of studies designed to integrate its military strategy, its military forces and its defense budgets," the Defense Secretary elaborated.

"Up to that point these had been considered separately and had not been related one to the other. Since that time studies have been underway to meet that objective. The results were presented July 25 in the form of a five-year plan for military forces and defense budgets for each of the nations of NATO."

Mr. McNamara said: "This was a major step forward. It demonstrated, as we thought it would, imbalances among our forces and inequities among the national contributions. It will be our plan the next several years to correct these imbalances and reduce the inequities."

An earlier final NATO communique from Paris stressed adoption of "a NATO force plan for this period within the agreed concept of forward defense."

The NATO communique also noted contributions of French Forces to the Alliance and the conditions of their cooperation with NATO forces under separate consideration.

Lunar Orbiter Launch Set for Early August

The United States is preparing to launch the first in a series of photographic laboratory spacecraft to orbit the moon between August 9-13 from Cape Kennedy.

Lunar Orbiter spacecraft are planned to continue the efforts of Ranger and Surveyor to acquire knowledge of the moon's surface to support Project Apollo.

The first photographic spacecraft, Lunar Orbiter A, is to obtain high resolution photographs of various types of surfaces on the moon to assess their suitability as landing sites for Apollo and Surveyor spacecraft.

STRIKE FORCE LANDING—Sea Knight (CH46A) helicopters from HMM-265, Marine Air Group 16, carry members of 4th Marine Regiment into action north of Phu Bai on Operation Hastings. Marines in foreground head for their positions while the choppers prepare to set down, landing more Marines of the strike force.

Navy Secretary Nitze Cites 'Dramatic Progress' in RVN

Navy Secretary Paul H. Nitze has made a "then and now" comparison between the Vietnam he has just visited and the Vietnam he saw 13 months ago, citing dramatic progress at every turn.

Today there are two full Marine divisions in the I Corps area around Da Nang and Chu Lai, he said, where one year ago there were only seven battalions.

"For example, in the Da Nang area the Marine Corps tactical area of responsibility 13 months ago was 21 square miles. Today it encompasses more than 600 square miles—an area some 30 times as large." He said in one year Marines had fought 87,000 small unit actions, most of them at night.

Mr. Nitze also said there has been a fantastic increase in naval patrolling actions to prevent infiltration of men and supplies by sea. In one month 100,000 junks were detected, he elaborated, and 50 percent of them were boarded and checked.

As for seapower's heavier guns, Mr. Nitze stressed that a 12-hour-on, 12-hour-off duty stint by 7th Fleet carriers had greatly increased flattop effectiveness.

Washington Memos

"OPERATION HASTINGS" PURPOSE was another spoiling action, this one to catch VC troop concentrations when changing infiltration routes from Laos to just north of 17th parallel, U.S. officials point out. Current VC infiltration rate remains unchanged, an estimated 4,500 monthly.

FOUR PHASE ANTI-GUERRILLA operations by Marines in Vietnam break down into search and destroy operations first, stopping VC guerrillas from infiltrating villages next, followed by good Marine community relations, and capped by return of social and governmental functions by the Republic of Vietnam. Navy Secretary Nitze characterized this phasing as leading, perhaps, in simplest terms, to a sound night of sleep by village chieftains without fear of assassination.

5TH MARINES ARE ROTATION BASE for two Marine Divisions now in Vietnam, according to Navy Secretary Nitze. He also said marines on-the-scene are confident 8-in. cruiser can handle fire-support job, making it unnecessary to break a battleship out of mothballs.

NASA HAS AWARDED 30 supplementary or new research grants and contracts totalling $2,969,058 to 26 universities, colleges and private research organizations. Highest amount, $599,069, is to University of Minnesota for "Multidisciplinary Research in Space Sciences and Technology."

WOMAN'S VOICE MAY be added to Navy's alarm systems of blinking lights, honks, buzzes and squawks. Pre-recorded female speech will warn of high-pressure seawater flooding which presents danger for submarines. System will be evaluated aboard an operational submarine and is adapted from one used in aircraft.

U.S. AIR FORCE awarded $6.2 million contract for production of F-106 interceptor tactical air navigation (TACAN) systems. New TACAN production unit, first to use microelectronic circuitry, will reduce to one-third the size and weight of present F-106 system. It is designed to provide 450 hours of maintenance-free operation because of this microelectronic circuitry. TACAN provides F-106 pilots with range and bearing from ground stations and range between planes equipped with similar TACAN.

ARMY'S SURGEON GENERAL said one of most thrilling war surgery stories comes from Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, where mortar fragment was removed from heart of young infantryman wounded in RVN. Rapid helicopter evacuation and "artificial heart machines" in forward combat area make such operations possible for the first time in the history of warfare.

U.S. COAST GUARD reaches its 176th birthday August 4. USCG owes its birth to Alexander Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury, who conceived of a modest revenue fleet to put down smuggling.

FLAG THAT ORBITED EARTH presented by Astronaut Thomas P. Stafford to Air Force Chief-of-Staff Gen. John P. McConnell. Stafford took 4-star flag into space on his June 3 Gemini-Nine mission.

AMPHIBIOUS TRANSPORT DOCK "Coronado," authorized in FY 64 shipbuilding program, was launched July 30 at Seattle, Wash. Named for city of Coronado, Calif., vessel displaces 16,900 tons fully loaded, and is designed to carry both combat troops and their equipment and to operate helicopters and landing craft.

CAPE KENNEDY SPACE MUSEUM, open to public this month, will document missile age from WW II German V-1's to latest Minuteman ICBM's. Eventual hope is to have duplicate of every missile or launch vehicle shot from Cape.

AMMUNITION SHIP USS VIRGO was recommissioned July 22 at Seattle, Wash. VIRGO is designed to transport and deliver ammunition, missiles or other ordnance to fleet or shore commands. She may also transport and deliver passengers, freight, mail or movies, act as ammunition station ship at an advance base, or serve as a bulk ammunition carrier for port to port transfer.

SOLDIERS FROM U.S. ARMY 1st Logistical Command at Qui Nhon have joined Navy repairmen aboard floating drydock USS Whetstone in combined effort to keep Army amphibious craft operating at peak efficiency at Log's port facility. Army boats, mostly LCUs and LCMs, transport troops and material from incoming ships to landing beaches, and soldiers and sailors work together in keeping electrical, radar, and engine operations up to standard.

NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK submarine USS Flasher was commissioned July 22 at Groton, Conn. Flasher is one of three ships which were lengthened, giving them more buoyancy and providing additional margin for installation of future developments and greater habitability for the crew.

DOD COMMUNITY RELATIONS CHIEF, Col. Julian B. Cross, USAF, died July 24th at Andrews AFB hospital of a heart ailment. He was interred July 28th at Arlington National Cemetery.

WHITE PLAINS (AFS-4), fourth of new class of combat store ships, was launched July 23 in San Diego, Calif. White Plains will carry a wide variety of replenishment items. Her armament will consist of four 3-inch, 50-caliber twin gun mounts. She will be manned by a crew of 35 officers and 378 enlisted men.

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Background for Commanders

The Atlantic World We Want*

The "NATO crisis"—as it was known in the press—is over. The 14 members of NATO other than France have made a clear decision to continue the Organization with full vigor. What remains are largely technical discussions.

The central issue before the American Government and the American people is the very much larger question as to what kind of Europe and what kind of Atlantic world do we want.

The world we know today is very different from the world 20—or even 10—years ago, and the world 10 years from now will have changed even more profoundly.

We are living at a time when technology is vaulting forward. The great colonial systems of the world under which one-third of the earth's population lived 20 years ago have been largely dismantled—to be replaced by more than 60 new states. The nations of Western Europe, in ruins at the conclusion of the war, no longer control these colonial systems, but they have nevertheless grown richer, with more highly-developed industries, than ever before—and they are seeking to adjust to the new conditions in which they find themselves.

European Unity

The concept of substituting unity—based on equality and achieved by common consent—for rivalry among nation states is perhaps the most constructive political idea to emerge in the 20th Century. It is only through such unity that the peoples of Western Europe can harness their great talents and resources to playing an effective role of world responsibility.

The needs and consequences of an age of technology have brought into positions of dominance states organized on a continent-wide basis. The emergence of these huge powers has transformed the structure of world politics. It is clear that European states must restructure their political arrangements on a scale commensurate with the requirements of the modern age.

Atlantic Partnership

We have sought to build with Western Europe a partnership arrangement enabling us to coordinate our common efforts to meet the great common tasks that are the lot of the free industrialized nations.

We have recognized from the beginning that unity in Europe and an effective Atlantic partnership were closely related, and that there would always be severe limitations on that partnership until Europe moved toward a greater unity. For so long as there remained the great disparity in size and resources between the United States and the nations of Europe acting individually, there would be awkwardness in any Atlantic arrangement. The Europeans would continue to feel what they regard as the undue weight of American opinion in our common counsels.

This awkwardness derives from the fact that we Americans can act through a single set of institutions and can thus apply the full resources of our continent to a single purpose, while the Europeans cannot.

East-West Settlement

A permanent East-West settlement will come only if the Western powers, acting from a base of unity, bring about a situation in which a settlement is possible.

The obvious pre-conditions to a settlement are changes in the attitude of the Soviet Government. Such changes as have occurred have resulted in part from shifts and movements within the Soviet system. Equally important, they have occurred because the Western powers, acting together, have created conditions to which the Soviet Union has had to adjust.

What we must achieve is a settlement embodying conditions that will assure its permanence. The essential condition is that it must be fair to all. It must embody the same basic principle that is essential to durable relations within the West—the principle of equality.

The road to the eventual ending of the partition of Europe and of Germany will be long. But we have made a start through many bilateral contacts between East and West. These must be expanded.

At the same time it is important that we expand multilateral ties. Existing multilateral institutions can respond to these emerging opportunities.

If we can help in these ways to narrow the existing differences in European standards of living, to develop East-West communication systems, and to facilitate trade, we can create some of the pre-conditions for solving basic political and security issues.

Our First Task

Our first common task has been to maintain a solid defense and an effective deterrent, and this is still essential. It would be foolish to assume, as some complacently suggest, that because NATO has prevented Europe from being overrun for more than a decade and a half, we no longer need an integrated common defense.

But defense and deterrence are not NATO's sole objects. NATO must also provide the unity of purpose that will facilitate a lasting settlement between East and West.

** Excerpts from statement by Under Secretary of State George W. Ball before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.*

Minuteman II Extends Successful Launch Record

An Air Force intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), Minuteman II, equipped with the Mark 12 re-entry vehicle, was launched from an underground silo at Cape Kennedy recently on another successful flight down the Eastern Test Range.

The solid-fuel ICBM put its payload in a planned target area approximately 5,000 miles down-range into the Ascension Island tracking network.

It was the 15th consecutive success in as many attempts for the Minuteman II.

Travis AFB C-141s Average 13 Air Hours Every 24

Two C-141 Starlifters based at Travis AFB, Calif., are flying the equivalent of a trip from California to Vietnam every day.

The two fanjet cargo-troop carriers are averaging thirteen hours in the air for each 24-hour period. At the end of June, the two had flown a combined total of 6,800 hours, which is translated into traveling more than 3,910,000 miles.

The two C-141s are among a half-dozen Military Airlift Command Starlifters which are taking part in a grueling user's test.

Commercial Communications Network Tests by AF Resume

Rome Air Development Center at Griffiss AFB, N. Y., has started further testing of its 12-commercial station Communications Network in the northeast section of the United States.

First established in April 1965, the test network is a distributed communications system developed in support of the Defense Communications Agency.

It was first successfully tested in the northeast section of the United States during the massive power blackout last November 9th.

MONTAGNARD WAR SPEAR—Lt. Col. Hugh L. Baynes, USAF, commander, 311th Air Commando Squadron, Da Nang air base, inspects a Montagnard war spear. Col. Baynes' unit raises money for supplies for the village school by trading food and other supplies for Montagnard handicrafts.

Navy Continues Testing In Vela Uniform Program

Underwater seismic tests conducted by the Navy as part of the Advanced Research Projects Agency VELA UNIFORM seismic research program continued July 28, in the Atlantic 75 miles east of Kitty Hawk, N. C.

The Office of Naval Research detonated 300 tons of obsolete conventional explosive material at a depth of 4,000 feet. The deteriorated explosives were contained in old mines, torpedo warheads and other obsolete ordnance. The cargo was sunk in the hull of a World War II Liberty ship which was towed to the site and scuttled.

The underwater test was a part of the continuing VELA UNIFORM research program designed to study the techniques of and improve the methods for detecting and locating underground and underwater explosions. Results of the test will complement the information obtained from the earlier tests.

75 Navy EM Selected To Attend Junior College

The Bureau of Naval Personnel has selected 75 outstanding petty officers to begin attending junior college this fall in line with Alford Board recommendations approved by Navy Secretary Paul Nitze.

Selected students will attend Associate Degree Completion Program at three colleges. The program will operate on a pilot basis with orientation toward skills in each student's rating.

Purpose of the program is to (1) provide career retention incentive to enlisted personnel; (2) increase professional proficiency of critical rates; and (3) evaluate training of Navy service schools.

YF-12A Crew Wins USAF's Mackay Trophy

Gen. John P. McConnell, USAF Chief of Staff, presented the Mackay Trophy to the YF-12A Test Force at Edwards AFB, Calif., July 23.

The Mackay Trophy is awarded annually within the Air Force for the "Most meritorious flight or flights of the year." Members of the YF-12A Test Force won the trophy for flights on May 1, 1965, in which nine new world speed and altitude records were set.

AF Promotions Increase

Air Force announces a continued favorable airmen promotion outlook for FY67.

Revised promotion quotas for E-9s total 1,215, an increase of 364 from original quota. 3,835 E-8 promotions will be made, up 1,438. E-7 promotions total 9,752, up 1,717; E-6, 17,068, up 4,012; E-5, 24,987, up 4,060; and E-4, 87,369, up 32,137.

Total promotions to E-9 and E-8 will be at the highest level since FY62, an Air Force briefing paper pointed out.

Promotions to E-4 will be higher than any year since FY57.

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